



LEFT TO RIGHT. Samuel Pountney, Inácio Mateus Assane, Wouter Visch.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS AT AQUA 2018

STUDENT WORKSHOPS

The theme of this year's student-centered workshop for AQUA 2018 was "Preparing for a career in aquaculture: Tips for success." The workshop was developed as a joint effort by the WAS Student Activities Committee and the EAS Student Group. The session included three speakers and ended with a question-and-answer session where students were able to engage with panellists selected from academia, industry and research. Jean-Michel Mortillaro (CIRAD) spoke on current opportunities in sustainable aquaculture development for students and recent graduates. Tips on how to prepare for a job interview were given by Nicole Rhody (Mote Marine Laboratory). Tomé Silva (SPAROS) discussed the use of bringing modeling tools from research into practical application.

WAS STUDENT SPOTLIGHT COMPETITION

The plenary session of AQUA 2018 in Montpellier concluded by highlighting WAS student scholars and researchers via a spotlight competition. Abstracts were judged and scored prior to the conference by WAS members based on set criteria. Winning students were recipients of a travel award (\$400 each). In addition, these individuals were invited to compete during the Plenary Session for the Student Spotlight Award. Winners were determined by the plenary audience through the WAS Meeting Assistant App or paper ballot. The three spotlight presenters were awarded cash prizes (\$500 for 1st place and \$200 each for 2nd and 3rd places) at the student reception, held at O'Sullivan's Irish Pub.

The winner of the Student Spotlight Competition was **Samuel Pountney** (Andrew Davie, Advisor) from University of Stirling. Samuel's talk was on "Temperature effects of captive Lumpfish *Cyclopterus lumpus* broodstock spawning season and gamete quality." The other two presenters were **Inácio Mateus Assane** (Fabiana Pilarski, Advisor) from São Paulo State University and **Wouter Visch** (Henrik Pavia, Advisor) from University of Gothenburg. Inácio's presentation discussed a "Combination of antimicrobials as an approach to reduce their use in aquaculture: example of using thiamphenicol with florfenicol against *Aeromonas hydrophila*." Wouter's presentation was on "Spatial

growth patterns and nutrient mitigation capacity of the blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) and kelp (*Saccharina latissima*) on the Swedish west coast."

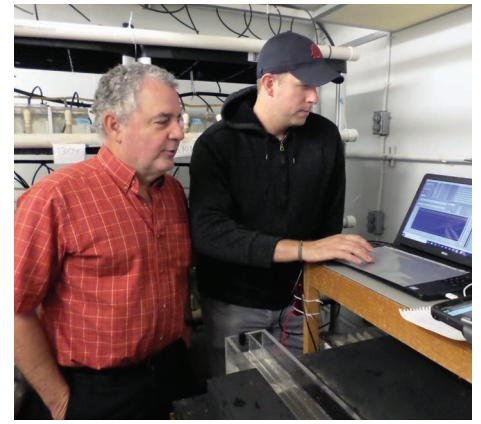
WAS ORAL PRESENTATION AND POSTER AWARDS

Cecilia Biancacci won first place (\$600) of the oral presentation competition for "The application of a lab scale photobioreactor for laboratory cultivation of *Osmundea pinnatifida*." Cecilia is currently enrolled as a Ph.D. student and based at The Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS). She is currently working under the direction of Michele Stanley and is focused on documenting the biochemical composition of this red alga as well as improving cultivation techniques for the species.

The second-place oral presentation honor (\$400) went to **Amit Savaya-Alkalay**, who is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel under the advisement of Amir Sagi. Amit's oral presentation was showed that "Reproductive barriers between *Macrobrachium* species permit sustainable aquaculture and biocontrol of schistosomiasis in Africa." His primary research interest is in sustainable aquaculture management. Going forward, he aims to find a post-doc in the combined area of aquaculture and parasitology.

The first-place poster (\$600) by **Matthew Hargrave** described "Co-cultivation of bivalves and macroalgae: multi-trophic aquaculture without a fed species in Sweden." Matthew is a student in the Department of Marine Sciences, University of Gothenburg and works under the direction of Henrik Pavia and his research is focused on marine chemical ecology.

Christopher Duke was awarded second place (\$400) for his poster on "Temperature-mediated plasticity in growth, sprint swimming performance, and body shape in rainbow trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss*." Duke is pursuing a Ph.D. in Zoology at Washington State University, under the guidance of advisor Patrick Carter. Upon graduation, he plans to continue his research in fisheries and aquaculture, with a particular emphasis on aquaponics. His interests include studying ways to maximize water and food efficiency, an important part of the work he does with The Phoenix Conservancy, a restoration conservation nonprofit.



LEFT TO RIGHT. *Cecilia Biancacci, Amit Savaya-Alkalay, Matthew Hargrave, Christopher Duke.*

EAS AWARDS

POSTER

The EAS Poster Award Winner is **Gabriella Do Vale Pereira**. Gabriella is currently a Research Assistant at University of Plymouth, UK working in the Fish Nutrition and Health group, led by Daniel Merrifield. She recently finished her Ph.D. in Biology at Plymouth on “Development of probiotics for the sustainable cultivation of pirarucu, *Arapaima gigas*.” Her current research focus is using metagenomics analysis and bioinformatics to understand aquaculture species microbiota. Outside academia she enjoys outdoors activities such as hiking and surfing.

TRAVEL GRANTS

Aiman Imentai is currently a Ph.D. student at the University of South Bohemia, Czech Republic. Her research is focused on optimization of pikeperch *Sander lucioperca* larvae first feeding in RAS systems. She also has worked as a junior researcher at Institute of Zoology, Almaty, Kazakhstan and Scientific Secretary at the

Kazakhstan National Committee for the UNESCO program “Man and Biosphere.”

Francisco Guardiola has a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Murcia, Spain. He is currently a post-doctoral researcher at CIIMAR and his research interests are focus on the study of the mucosal immune response and its involvement in defense against infections in fish. He is focused on the search for new natural immunostimulants (besides probiotics and prebiotics) and their effects on fish immune response and disease resistance.

Mohamed Mahmoud is currently a research associate in the Department of Sensory Analytics at the Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV. He is currently working to finish his Ph.D. under the supervision of Andrea Büttner, chair of aroma and smell research, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg. The focus of his research is to explore the molecular principles of off-odor development in aquaculture fish products and elucidate their formation factors. In addition, his research aims to develop avoidance strategies to improve the sensory quality of aquaculture products.

WAS BESTOWS HONORARY LIFE AWARD AND NAMES TWO FELLOWS IN MONTPELLIER

The World Aquaculture Society named an Honorary Life Member and two new Fellows at the plenary session of AQUA 2018 in Montpellier, France..

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Maria Soledad Izquierdo

The Honorary Life Award is conferred upon any living individual who has made a longstanding and significant contribution in some field of aquaculture. Dr. Izquierdo is Director of the Aquaculture and Marine Genetics Department at the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC) and Grupo de Investigación en Acuicultura (ICCM) in Spain. She has also been Director of Instituto Canario de Ciencias Marinas, Director of

Scientific Policy of ULPGC and Director of Biology Department. She is President of the Fish Subcommittee of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences and Vice-president since 2006 and is also a member of the Royal Academy of Medicine. In addition, she has led the Network of Mediterranean Aquaculture Nutrition for ten years and Aquatrans, a network to promote collaboration between all institutions involved in aquaculture in the regions of Canaries and Morocco to boost sustainable development. Her area of expertise is fish and shellfish nutrition in relation to reproduction, larval development, feed utilization, alternative ingredients and health. She has been a member of the World Aquaculture Society since 1988. She is committed to knowledge

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